

Please insert a new heading and paragraph at **page 1, following line 1, and above line 2**, to read as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is related to our copending U. S. Patent Applications 10/017,977 and 10/017,987, both filed on December 13, 2001.

REMARKS:

Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 1 to 16 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Masaaki HARASAWA et al.
Applicant

WFF:ar/4293
Enclosure: postcard

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Anita Morse - February 14, 2002
Name: Anita Morse - Date: February 14, 2002